IN THE DRAWINGS

Proposed corrections to Figs. 1-3, and 6 are submitted herewith to label them as "related art." Red ink corrected sheets, Replacement Sheets and a Letter to the Official Draftsman are attached.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

At the outset, the Applicants wish to thank the examiners for the courtesy shown to their representatives during a personal interview on June 22, 2005. The following includes a summary of the discussion at the interview.

An Information Disclosure Statement is attached, which is directed to the art in counterpart foreign applications and co-pending related applications

Figs. 1-6, 8, 9 have been objected to for not having descriptive labels. To the extent this objection applies to Figs. 4, 5, 8, 9, the Applicants respectfully traverse because these figures represent the invention and are not related art. Proposed corrections to Figs. 1-3, and 6 are submitted herewith to label them as "related art."

Claims 79, 97, 112, and 114 have been amended to overcome the objections in Section 2 of the office action. Claims 101, 102, 131 and 132 have been amended to overcome the 35 USC 112, second paragraph, rejection of Section 3 of the office action. These amendments are for clarity only and are non-narrowing, and thus no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The pending prior art rejections are as follows:

(1) claims 73-84, 86, 103-114, and stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Chillariga et al. (US 2001/0030956); of these claims, claims 73, 79, 103, and 109 are independent;

(2) Dependent claims 85, 87-102, 115, and 117-132 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Chillariga et al. in view of Abdesselem (US 2004/0151143).

(3) Dependent claims 101, 102, 131, and 132 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Chillariga et al. in view of Abdesselem further in view of Parantainen (US 2002/0181422).

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The sole rejection of independent claims 73, 79, 103 and 109 is under 102(b) as anticipated by Chillariga et al.

According to the invention of claims 73 and 103, (i) when shifted USF operation is not used, then a USF which instructs a mobile station to perform uplink transmission on a first uplink slot is transmitted on a first downlink slot and (ii) when the shifted USF operation is used, then the USF which instructs the mobile station to perform uplink transmission on <u>said</u> first uplink slot is transmitted on a second downlink slot. According to the invention of claims 79 and 109, when (i) when shifted USF operation is not used, then a USF which instructs a mobile station to perform uplink transmission on a first uplink PDCH is transmitted on a

first downlink PDCH and (ii) when the shifted USF operation is used, then the USF which instructs the mobile station to perform uplink transmission on said first uplink PDCH is transmitted on a second downlink PDCH.

During the interview, the Applicants' representative pointed out that Chillariga discloses use of USF on a block-wise basis, whereas the present claims relate to use of USF on a slot-wise basis. See attached Exhibit I. Further, in Chillariga's Fig. 7 system (cited in the office action as a shifted USF operation), the USF will appear once every 12 blocks (B0-B11) wherever OFFSET MFx would be set, because the USF shifting of Chillariga is merely a "logical shifting." In contrast, in the present invention, as one example, the USF appears on the first slot when shifted USF is not used, and the USF appears on the second slot when shifted USF is used. Then, when the operation reverts back to non-shifted USF operation, the USF appears on the first slot. In the invention, the interval between a USF and next USF is not constant, and depends on whether shifted USF is used or not in the neighboring frames. See, attached Exhibit II.

Next, during the interview, it was emphasized that the invention uses different downlink slots to instruct uplink transmission on the same uplink slot, depending upon whether shifted USF or non-shifted USF operation is being performed. In

other words, either the first downlink slot or the second downlink slot may be used to instruct uplink transmission on the first uplink slot. Chillariga does not teach such operation. The office action asserts that, in Chillariga, Fig. 3 shows non-shifted USF operation, and Fig. 7 shows shifted USF operation; these figures are illustrated in attached Exhibit III. The office action identifies the first downlink block in the non-shifted USF operation as marked in Fig. 3 of Exhibit III, and identifies the second downlink block in the shifted USF operation as marked in Fig. 7 of Exhibit III. As noted during the interview, however, the first downlink block provides instructions with respect to uplink blocks B1-B0 of MFx, whereas the second downlink block provides instructions with respect to uplink blocks B1-B0 of MFx+1. Thus, the first downlink block and the second downlink block instruct <u>different</u> uplink blocks in different multiframes. Hence, Chillariga does not teach or suggest the present claimed invention which uses different downlink slots to instruct uplink transmission on the <u>same</u> uplink slot, depending upon whether shifted USF or non-shifted USF operation is being performed, i.e., wherein either the first downlink slot or the second downlink slot may be used to instruct uplink transmission on the first uplink slot, depending upon shifted USF or non-shifted USF operation.

Due to at least the above points, it is submitted that independent claims 73, 79, 103 and 109 are not anticipated by Chillariga. Thus, allowance of these claims and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

Abdesselem and Parantainen are cited only against dependent claims and add nothing that would cure the above-noted deficiencies of Chillariga.

Thus, in light of the foregoing, it is submitted that all pending claims are allowable over the individual or combined teachings of the applied art, and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

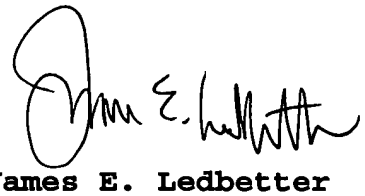

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Exhibit I

Prior art (Chillariga)

【Fig.3】 Standard PDCH for a GPRS/EGPRS or EDGE system

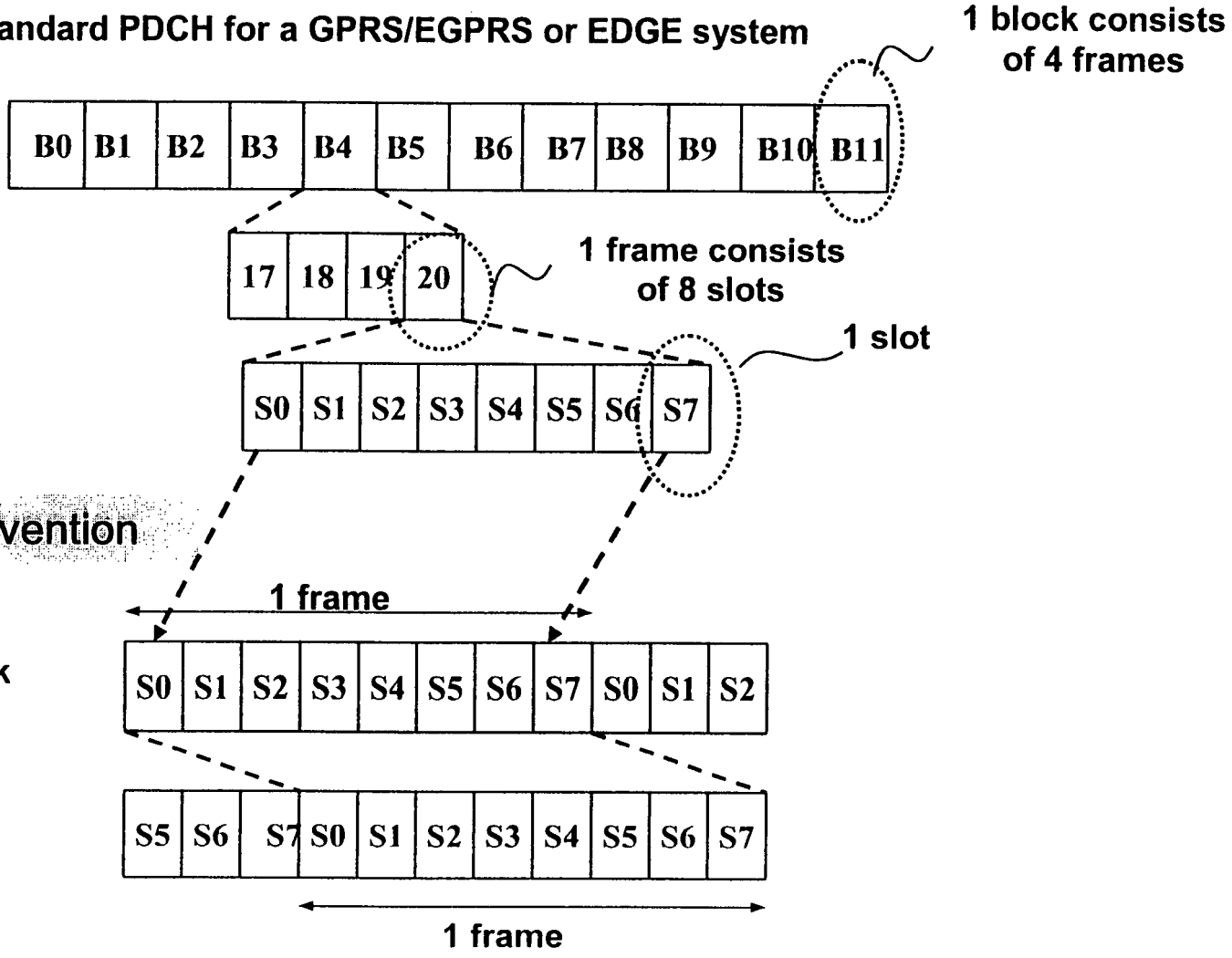
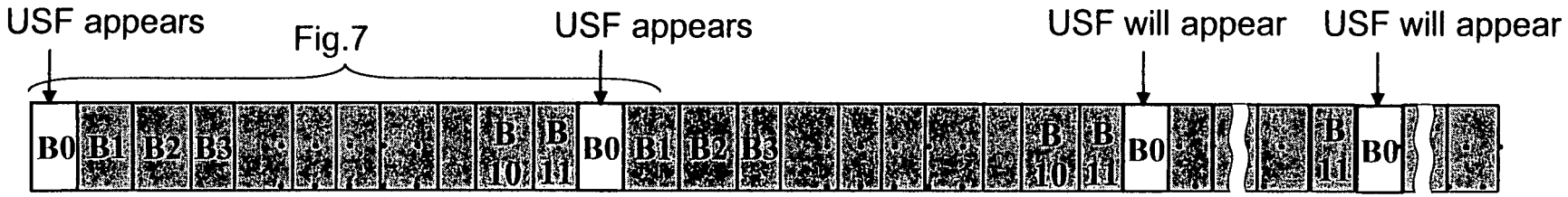


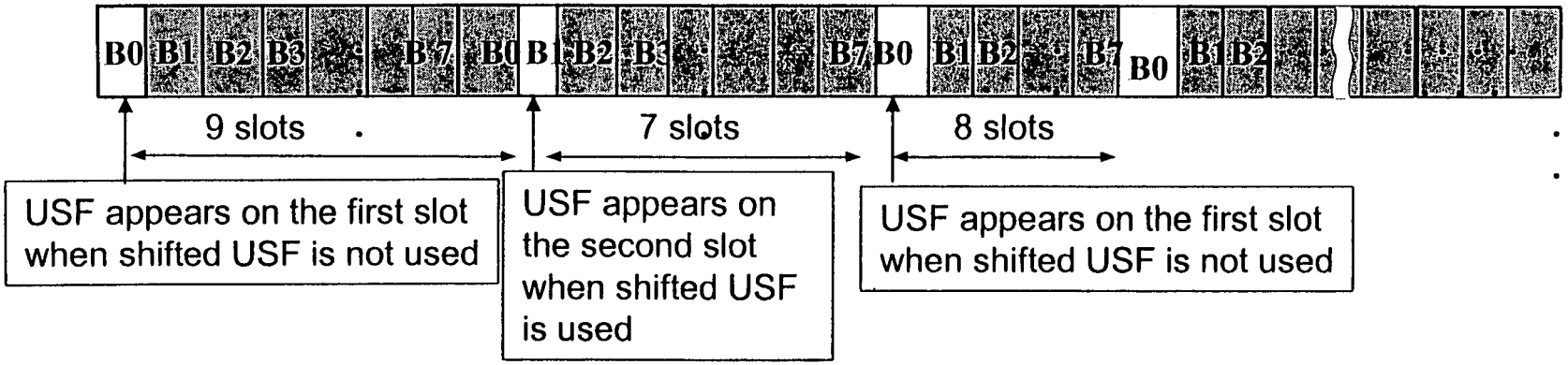
Exhibit II

Stream of down-link slots (Chillariga Fig.7)



USF will appear once every 12 slots (0-11), wherever OFFSET MFx would be set. Because the USF shifting of Chillariga is just "logically" sifting (see [0092] line 1).

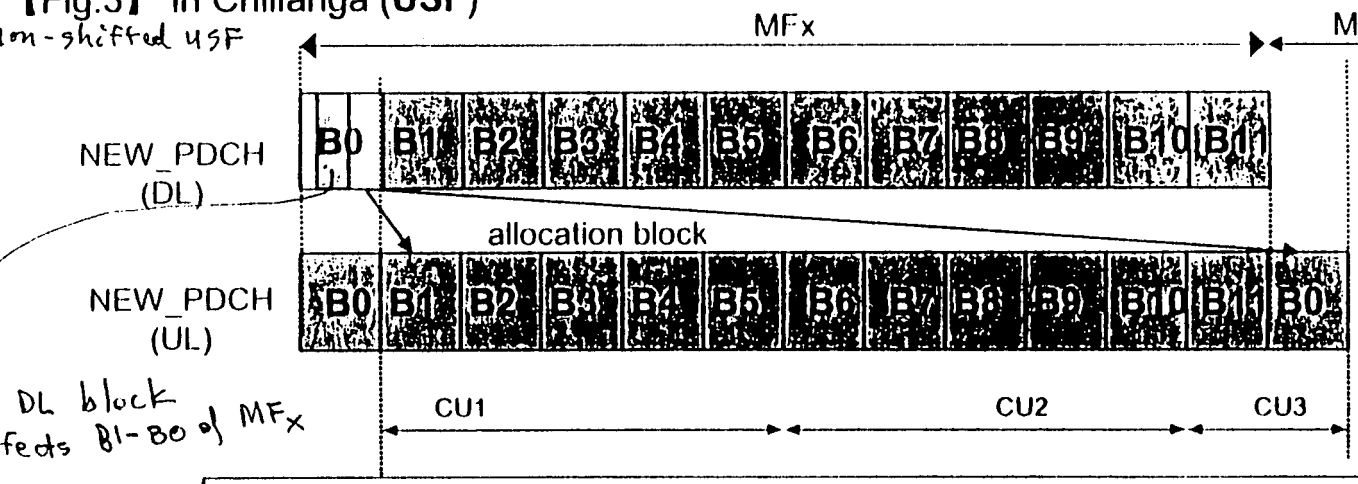
Stream of down-link slots (present invention)



The interval between a USF and next USF is not constant and it depends on whether shifted USF is used or not in the neighboring frames.

【Fig.3】 in Chillariga (USF)

non-shifted USF



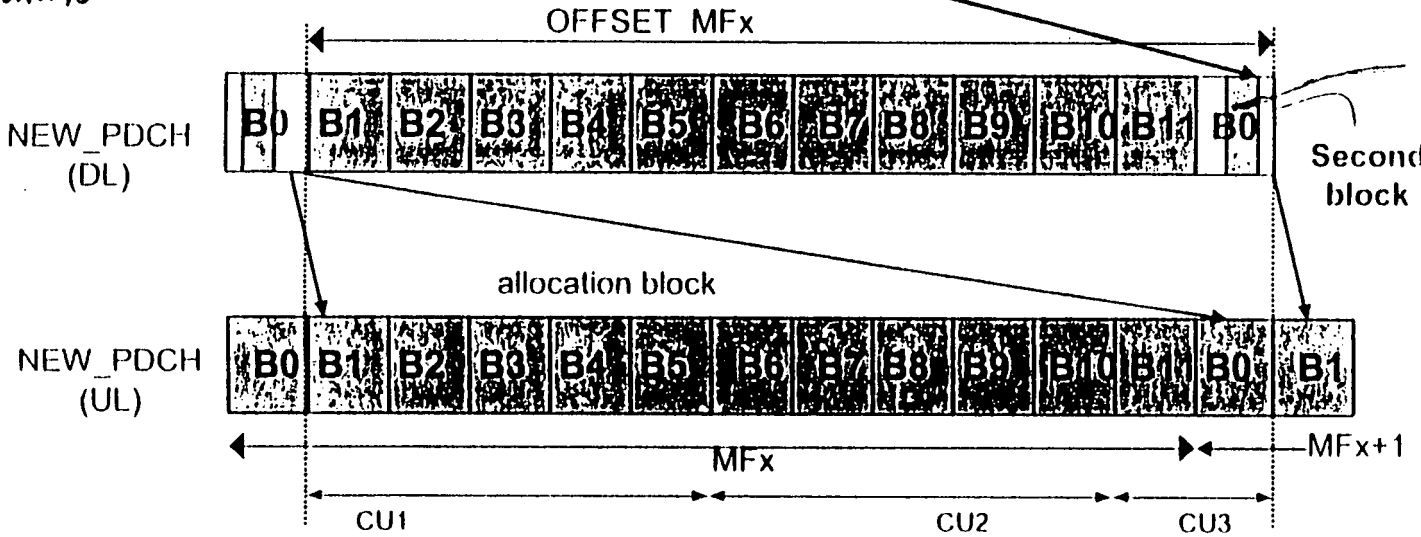
1st DL block affects B1-B0 of MFx

Exhibit III

uplink block allocated by downlink block PDCH B0 block(in MFx Frame) is:

【Fig.7】 in Chillariga (**shifted USF**)

office action asserts shifted USF



2d DL block affects B1-B0 of MFx+1 not MFx